

(c) REMARKS

The claims are 1, 4-6, 10 and 11 with claim 1 the sole independent claim. The subject matter of allowable claim 12 has been added to independent claim 1 and claims 9 and 12 have been cancelled. Reconsideration of the claims is expressly requested.

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claim 12, dependent on claims 1 and 9, would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, independent claim 1 has been made allowable by the incorporation of claims 9 and 12 and, therefore, claims 4-6, 10 and 11 are likewise in condition for allowance.

Claims 1, 4-6, 9-11 were previously rejected on art grounds and on double patenting grounds. The rejections have been rendered moot by the present amendment. This action was taken without prejudice or disclaimer and without conceding the propriety of the rejection, and solely to expedite allowance and issuance.

Expedient passage of the case to issue is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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